

ABSTRACT – Typology of rural space in the Pilsen Region and evaluation of soft factors of the development

Presented diploma thesis deals with an important theme of rural differentiation. The goal is to create a typology of rural space within the Pilsen Region by potential of the development using quantitative data and then verify the typology by qualitative research of soft factors. The verification consists firstly in research of perception and regional identity of rural regions from the point of view of actors involved in rural development within the Pilsen Region and secondly in evaluation of appearance of chosen rural municipalities to observe the differences of each type. Theoretical part is focused on issues of differentiation of space, institutional theories with accent on application in the rural areas and rural development issues. Analytical part consists of created typology using component and cluster analysis. Further it presents the results of analysis of perception and regional identity of rural regions using method of semi-structured interviews and results of analysis of appearance of municipalities using standardized observation. The outcome is a compact typology created by combination of quantitative and qualitative data with suggestions of specific development possibilities of each type.

Keywords: rural development, municipality, Pilsen Region, differentiation, typology, soft factors, identity, appearance